

# ***Countdown to the Inauguration***

***January 20, 2009***



**President's Park  
White House Visitor Center**

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**November**

**76 Days to Inauguration**

**5**

*The Oath of Office was  
administered by this  
U.S. President's father,  
a Justice of the Peace,  
in 1923.*

Answer: Calvin Coolidge



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**November**

**75 Days to Inauguration**

**6**

*In 1965, this First Lady took a role in an Inaugural Ceremony for the first time when she held the Bible on which the U.S. President swore his Oath of Office.*

Answer: Lady Bird Johnson



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**November**

**7**

**74 Days to Inauguration**

*This former U.S. President  
delivered the Oath of Office  
to an incoming U.S.  
President in 1925.*

Answer: Chief Justice of the Supreme Court William Howard Taft



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**November**  
**8**

**73 Days to Inauguration**

*For this U.S. President, the Inaugural Committee issued guidelines that the flag only be used on a flagpole, not hung from windows, nor used as bunting. This directive was largely ignored in 1917.*

Answer: Woodrow Wilson



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**November**  
**9**

**72 Days to Inauguration**

*His horse, Old Whitey, led  
this U.S. President's Inaugural  
Procession to the Capitol  
in 1841.*

Answer: William Henry Harrison



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**November**  
**10**

**71 Days to Inauguration**

*This U.S. President was the  
first to be sworn in  
using January 20th as  
the Inaugural date.*

Answer: Franklin Roosevelt - 1937



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**November**

**11**

**70 Days to Inauguration**

*While attending West Point, this soldier marched in President Woodrow Wilson's Inaugural Parade in 1913. Forty years later he became our 34th President.*

Answer: Dwight Eisenhower - 1953



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**November**  
**12**

**69 Days to Inauguration**

*In what year did  
women first march  
in the Inaugural Parade?*

Answer: Woodrow Wilson - 1917



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**November**  
**13**

**68 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President's dog  
was allowed to watch  
the Inaugural Parade  
from the reviewing stand?*

Answer: Lyndon Johnson - 1965



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**November**

**67 Days to Inauguration**

**14**

*Which U.S. President invited  
the American Indian hero,  
Geronimo, to attend  
his Inauguration?*

Answer: Theodore Roosevelt - 1905



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**November**  
**15**

**66 Days to Inauguration**

*His Inaugural Ceremony  
was the first where a  
wife was present to witness  
her husband's swearing-in.*

Answer: James Madison - 1809



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**November**

**65 Days to Inauguration**

**16**

*In what city was  
the first U.S. President  
inaugurated?*

Answer: New York City - 1789



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**November**  
**17**

**64 Days to Inauguration**

*In what year was  
the first outside  
Inaugural in  
Washington, D.C.?*

Answer: 1817 - James Monroe



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**November**  
**18**

**63 Days to Inauguration**

*In 1913, because of the anticipated large crowds for this U.S. President's parade, the fire marshal banned smoking and tall hats in the stands.*

Answer: Woodrow Wilson



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**November**  
**19**

**62 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President  
participated in the first  
themed Inaugural Parade –  
“The Crusade in America”  
in 1953?*

Answer: Dwight Eisenhower



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**November**  
**20**

**61 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President  
walked to his Inaugural?*

Answer: Thomas Jefferson - 1801



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**November**  
**21**

**60 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President was  
sworn into office on  
an airplane?*

Answer: Lyndon Johnson - 1963



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**November**  
**22**

**59 Days to Inauguration**

*In 1853, this U.S. President  
delivered his Inaugural  
Address without  
referring to any notes.*

Answer: Franklin Pierce



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**November**  
**23**

**58 Days to Inauguration**

*In what year was  
the first Inaugural Ceremony  
held on January 20th?*

Answer: 1937 - Franklin Roosevelt



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**November**  
**24**

**57 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President's two  
Inaugural Ceremonies, four  
years apart, were held in  
two different cities in  
two different states?*

Answer: George Washington - New York City, 1789, and Philadelphia, PA, 1793



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**November**  
**25**

**56 Days to Inauguration**

*More than 40 million  
jelly beans were eaten  
at this U.S. President's eight  
Inaugural Balls in 1981.*

Answer: Ronald Reagan



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**November**  
**26**

**55 Days to Inauguration**

*In what year did the  
Air Force Academy Band  
make its first appearance  
in an Inaugural Parade?*

Answer: 1961 - John Kennedy



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**November**  
**27**

**54 Days to Inauguration**

*In 1897, Congress  
hosted the first  
Inaugural Luncheon  
for this U.S. President.*

Answer: William McKinley



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**November**  
**28**

**53 Days to Inauguration**

*Who was the first  
U.S. President to ride to  
his Inaugural Ceremony  
in an automobile?*

Answer: William Harding in a Pierce-Arrow touring car - 1921



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**November**  
**29**

**52 Days to Inauguration**

*These father and  
son Presidents were  
sworn into office  
twelve years apart.*

Answer: George H. W. Bush, 1989, and George W. Bush, 2001



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**November**  
**30**

**51 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President's  
Inaugural Ceremony  
was the first to be  
broadcast nationally  
on radio?*

Answer: Calvin Coolidge - 1925



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**December**

**50 Days to Inauguration**

**1**

*This U.S. President was  
sworn in using a  
Dutch family Bible  
from the 1600s.*

Answer: Franklin Roosevelt



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**December**

**49 Days to Inauguration**

**2**

*His Inaugural Ceremony  
in 1837 was the first  
to have Inaugural Programs.*

Answer: Martin Van Buren



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**December**  
**3**

**48 Days to Inauguration**

*His was the first  
Inaugural Ceremony  
after a new amendment  
to the Constitution set  
a term limit on the Presidency.*

Answer: Dwight Eisenhower - 1953



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**December**

**47 Days to Inauguration**

**4**

*Who was the first U.S. President  
to review the Inaugural Parade  
from a stand on the north side  
of the White House on  
Pennsylvania Avenue?*

Answer: James Garfield - 1881



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**December**

**46 Days to Inauguration**

**5**

*In what year did  
our first U.S. President,  
George Washington,  
first take the  
Oath of Office?*

Answer: 1789



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**December**

**45 Days to Inauguration**

**6**

*Who was the only  
U.S. President to be  
sworn in for a  
third term in office?*

Answer: Franklin Roosevelt



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**December**

**7**

**44 Days to Inauguration**

*In what year was  
the first Inaugural  
Ceremony broadcast  
on television?*

Answer: 1945 - Harry Truman



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**December**

**43 Days to Inauguration**

**8**

*Who was the first  
un-elected U.S. Vice President  
to become President?*

Answer: Gerald Ford



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**December**

**42 Days to Inauguration**

**9**

*Who was the first  
U.S. President to take  
the Oath of Office  
in the White House?*

Answer: Rutherford Hayes - the public ceremony was held on Monday, March 5, 1877



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**December**

**41 Days to Inauguration**

**10**

*Who was the first  
U.S. President to publicly  
be sworn in on a Sunday?*

Answer: Woodrow Wilson - 1917



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**December**

**40 Days to Inauguration**

**11**

*Which U.S. President reviewed  
the Inaugural Parade  
from a stand heated  
by solar power?*

Answer: Jimmy Carter - 1977



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**December**

**39 Days to Inauguration**

**12**

*Which U.S. President's  
Inaugural celebrations  
included five balls?*

Answer: John Kennedy - 1961



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**December**

**38 Days to Inauguration**

**13**

*Which outgoing U.S. President  
was the first to leave  
the Capitol by helicopter?*

Answer: Gerald Ford - 1977



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**December**

**37 Days to Inauguration**

**14**

*In what year was  
the first official  
Inaugural Ball held?*

Answer: 1809 - James Madison



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**December**

**36 Days to Inauguration**

**15**

*In what year did  
a woman first administer the  
Presidential Oath of Office?*

Answer: 1963 - U.S. District Judge Sarah Hughes swore in Lyndon Johnson



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**December**

**35 Days to Inauguration**

**16**

*Who was the only  
U.S. President to be  
sworn in to a fourth  
term of office?*

Answer: Franklin Roosevelt - 1945



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**December**

**17**

**34 Days to Inauguration**

*In what year was  
the Inaugural Ceremony  
first broadcast live  
on the Internet?*

Answer: 1997 - William Clinton



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**December**

**33 Days to Inauguration**

**18**

*Who was the first  
U.S. President to have  
two Inaugural Balls?*

Answer: Martin Van Buren - 1837



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**December**

**32 Days to Inauguration**

**19**

*Who was the first  
U.S. Vice President to  
assume the Presidency  
upon the death  
of a President?*

Answer: John Tyler - 1834



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**December**  
**20**

**31 Days to Inauguration**

*In what year was  
the Inaugural Parade  
first televised in color?*

Answer: 1961 - John Kennedy



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**December**  
**21**

**30 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President's  
Inaugural Ceremony  
was first announced  
by telegraph?*

Answer: James Polk - 1845



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**December**  
**22**

**29 Days to Inauguration**

*Veterans of this U.S. President's  
“Rough Riders” marched in his  
Inaugural Parade in 1905.*

Answer: Theodore Roosevelt



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**December**  
**23**

**28 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President and  
his family walked to  
the White House from  
his ceremony at the Capitol?*

Answer: Jimmy Carter - 1977



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December

27 Days to Inauguration

24

*Nine Inaugural Balls  
were held in honor  
of which U.S. President in 1985?*

Answer: Ronald Reagan



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December  
**25**

26 Days to Inauguration

*Who was the first  
U.S. President to ride to  
his Inaugural Ceremony  
in a closed, bullet-proofed  
limousine?*

Answer: Lyndon Johnson - 1965



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December  
**26**

25 Days to Inauguration

*When was the first time  
both parents of a  
U.S. President-elect attended  
the Inaugural Ceremony  
for their son?*

Answer: 1961 - John Kennedy



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**December**  
**27**

**24 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President's  
second Inaugural Day  
fell on Super Bowl Sunday?*

Answer: Ronald Reagan - 1985



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**December**  
**28**

**23 Days to Inauguration**

*In 1797, this U.S. President  
wrote his own Inaugural  
Address. One sentence  
contained 700 words.*

Answer: George Washington



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December  
**29**

22 Days to Inauguration

*He was the first U.S. President  
to deliver an Address  
AFTER his swearing-in  
ceremony.*

Answer: George Washington



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**December**  
**30**

**21 Days to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President's  
inaugural day fell on  
Martin Luther King Day  
in 1997?*

Answer: William Clinton



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**December**  
**31**

**20 Days to Inauguration**

*When was the first  
closed-captioned  
Inaugural Ceremony  
televised?*

Answer: 1981 - Ronald Reagan



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**January**

**19 Days to Inauguration**

**1**

*How many presidents have  
had non-traditional  
Inaugural Ceremonies?*

Answer: Ten (J. Tyler, M. Fillmore, A. Johnson, R. Hayes, C. Arthur, T. Roosevelt, C. Coolidge, H. Truman, L. Johnson, G. Ford)



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**January**

**18 Days to Inauguration**

**2**

*Which U.S. President's  
Inaugural Ball was  
the first to have electricity?*

Answer: James Garfield - 1881, held in a Smithsonian Institution building



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**January**

**17 Days to Inauguration**

**3**

*On March 20, 1869, this  
U.S. President held his first  
Inaugural Ball in the  
Cash Room of the north  
wing of the Treasury Building.*

Answer: Ulysses Grant



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**January**

**4**

**16 Days to Inauguration**

*This U.S. President's  
Inaugural Ball was  
postponed until  
early May, 1789.*

Answer: George Washington



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**January**

**5**

**15 Days to Inauguration**

*He was the first U.S. President  
to receive the Oath of Office  
from the Chief Justice of the  
United States.*

Answer: John Adams - 1797



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**January**

**6**

**14 Days to Inauguration**

*Poet Maya Angelou did  
a reading at this U.S. President's  
first Inaugural Ceremony.*

Answer: William Clinton - 1993



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**January**

**7**

**13 Days to Inauguration**

*Approximately 450 horses  
were ridden up  
Pennsylvania Avenue  
during which U.S. President's  
1981 Inaugural Parade?*

Answer: Ronald Reagan



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**January**

**12 Days to Inauguration**

**8**

*This U.S. President's  
2001 Inaugural ceremony  
was the 49th held at  
the United States Capitol.*

Answer: George W. Bush



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**January**

**11 Days to Inauguration**

**9**

*During his 1905 Inaugural Parade, 35,000 marchers passed before this U.S. President and Pennsylvania Avenue was lined with 50,000 American flags.*

Answer: Theodore Roosevelt



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**January**

**10**

**10 Days to Inauguration**

*The United States Marine Band  
set a precedent by playing  
for this U.S. President's  
Inaugural Ball in 1809.*

Answer: James Madison



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January

9 Days to Inauguration

11

*In 1841, this U.S. President  
broke precedent by  
beginning his address, taking  
the Oath of Office, and  
then resuming his address.*

Answer: William Henry Harrison



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January

12

8 Days to Inauguration

*This U.S. President's Inaugural  
was the first time State  
governors were invited  
to participate in the events.*

Answer: Ulysses Grant



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January  
**13**

7 Days to Inauguration

*In 1881, this U.S. President  
was the first to hold  
an Inaugural Ball in a  
Smithsonian building.*

Answer: James Garfield



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January

14

6 Days to Inauguration

*In 1953, this U.S. President broke tradition and wore a “homburg” to his Inaugural Ceremony instead of the traditional black top hat.*

Answer: Dwight Eisenhower



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January  
**15**

5 Days to Inauguration

*African Americans  
marched for the first time  
in this U.S. President's  
1865 Inaugural Parade.*

Answer: Abraham Lincoln



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January

16

4 Days to Inauguration

*This U.S. President caught pneumonia and died a month after giving a very long Inaugural Address.*

Answer: William Henry Harrison



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January  
**17**

3 Days to Inauguration

*This U.S. President did  
NOT take his 1901  
Oath of Office on  
a Bible.*

Answer: Theodore Roosevelt



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January  
**18**

2 Days to Inauguration

*He was the last  
U.S. President-elect to  
wear a hat to his  
swearing-in ceremony.*

Answer: John Kennedy - 1961



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**January**  
**19**

**1 Day to Inauguration**

*Which U.S. President  
delivered the longest  
Inaugural Address?*

Answer: William Henry Harrison - His 8,445 word speech lasted nearly two hours in 1841.



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**January**  
**20**

**Inauguration Day**

*Today marks the  
56th Presidential Inaugural.*



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